1120 Stakeholders

We are pleased to announce that we are posting the first draft of the Tax Year (TY) 2004 XML schemas (Version 2004V01) and Business Rules that we refer to as Release 3.1 on our website. These schemas focus on the new tax year form and tax law changes that have occurred.

Publication 4162, Modernized e-File Test Package for Forms 1120/1120S For Tax Year 2004 will be published on the website within the next few weeks. We anticipate Assurance Testing (ATS) to begin November 5, 2004.

You will see a newly designed website that hopefully will make it easier to navigate. The tables will display the schemas that are active and available for use in transmitting returns both for production and testing.

XML Schemas

The schemas we are presenting you today are the first draft of Tax Year 2004 XML schemas for all forms and schedules for 1120/1120S. The schemas are version 01 (2004V01) and can be found on the irs.gov website in the **ATS System** table at http://www.irs.gov/taxpros/providers/article/0,.id=97626,00.html. Also included are the "Diff Files" that show changes from the June 16, 2004 posting.

TY2003V23 is shown in the Production System table as they are still valid and being used to process 2003 returns.

Business Rules

Business Rules for Release 3.1 version 01 (2004V01) are also being posted today in two different formats – a MS Word file and a comma separated file (.csv) that contains the very same information. A column in the file identifies the changes made from the last posted version to help you identify the changes that were made. The business rules are posted under Other Documents at

http://www.irs.gov/taxpros/providers/article/0,,id=97626,00.html.

Each rule file is assigned the same version number that is assigned to the schemas to which the rules apply. The current schemas and rules files are assigned version number 2004 Version 01 (2004V01).

As with the XML schemas TY2003V23 is also available for the Business Rules in the Production System table for the 2003 returns currently being filed.

Form 7004

We are also pleased to announce that we are posting the Release 3.1 schemas and business rules version 2004V01 for Form 7004, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File Corporation Income Tax Return, which is due to be implemented in January 2005. Form 7004 will also be included in the 1120 ATS testing in November 2004. Instructions for the Form 7004 will be included in Publications 4162, 4163 and 4164.

As always if you have any questions or comments, please contact us through the Topica group or the ETA 1120 Team at 1120@irs.gov. You can also contact Xan Ostro at (202) 283-7697 or Joan Barr from the ETA team at (202) 283-2572. For questions on 7004, you can contact Thelma McConkey from the ETA team at (202) 283-4853.